

34TH ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

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Interim

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House Judiciary Committee, Chair

House Military and Veterans'
Affairs, Committee Vice-Chair

Joint Armed Services Committee,
Co-chair

House Health and Social Services
Committee

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REPRESENTATIVE ANDREW GRAY

HB 382 34-LS1201\H

Sponsor Statement

March 24, 2026

House Bill 382 was introduced to modernize the statutes setting the structure, function, and focus of the Joint Armed Services Committee (JASC).

Created in 1999 in legislation sponsored by then-Representative Lisa Murkowski, the JASC was a response to the federal Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1990, commonly known as BRAC. The BRAC process was extremely complicated and emotionally charged, and it resulted in major alterations to the Alaska defense landscape, including changes at Adak, Elmendorf, Eielson, Kulis, Fort Greely, and Galena.

While BRAC is still a lingering concern, changing the statutes to reflect a broader mission is in order if the JASC is to continue to be a proven and effective instrument of the Legislature.

This draft gives the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Alaska Municipal League their own full representation on the committee rather than sharing a seat. Both entities have large constituencies and issues related to military activity in Alaska and warrant full representation.

HB 382 also tasks the Legislative Affairs Agency with basic civilian member roster management, as the JASC has no permanent staff assigned.

Finally, the bill sunsets the Joint Committee in 2036 for review and re-enactment.

I would appreciate your support.

